

In the Claims:

1. (cancel)

1. 2.

(currently amended) An absorbent article having a first waist region, a second waist region and a crotch region interconnecting the first waist region and second waist region, an article inner surface and an article outer surface, the absorbent article comprising:

a topsheet;

a backsheet;

a fastening device for joining at least a portion of the first waist region with at least a portion of the second waist region, the fastening device including at least one first fastening member, and at least one second fastening member;

the first fastening member is joined to the first waist region, the first fastening member includes,

at least one first tab, the first tab including a first tab inner surface, a first tab outer surface, and a first tab fastening element on to the first tab inner surface,

at least one second tab, the second tab including a second tab inner surface, a second tab outer surface, and a second tab fastening element on the second tab inner surface,

a releasable tab to tab bond between the first tab outer surface and the second tab inner surface, the releasable tab to tab bond having a release load,

at least one second fastening member joined to the second waist region on the article outer surface;

each first tab fastening element and second tab fastening element are configured to provide an operably secure, fastening engagement with the second fastening member, The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein the fastening device includes at least one stored landing zone on the article inner surface, a releasable storage fastening bond between the stored landing zone and the first fastening member, the releasable storage fastening bond having a release load that is less than the releasable tab to tab bond release load.

3. (currently amended) An absorbent article having a first waist region, a second waist region and a crotch region interconnecting the first waist region and second waist region, an article inner surface and an article outer surface, the absorbent article comprising:

a topsheet;

a backsheet;

a fastening device for joining at least a portion of the first waist region with at least a portion of the second waist region, the fastening device including at least one first fastening member, and at least one second fastening member;

the first fastening member is joined to the first waist region, the first fastening member includes,

at least one first tab, the first tab including a first tab inner surface, a first tab outer surface, and a first tab fastening element on to the first tab inner surface,

at least one second tab, the second tab including a second tab inner surface, a second tab outer surface, and a second tab fastening element on the second tab inner surface,

a releasable tab to tab bond between the first tab outer surface and the second tab inner surface, the releasable tab to tab bond having a release load,

at least one second fastening member joined to the second waist region on the article outer surface;

each first tab fastening element and second tab fastening element are configured to provide an operably secure, fastening engagement with the second fastening member. ~~The absorbent article of claim 1~~ wherein a first releasable fastening bond between the first tab fastening element and the second fastening member has a release load that is greater than the releasable tab to tab bond release load.

4. (original) The absorbent article of claim 3, wherein a second releasable fastening bond between the second tab fastening element and the second fastening member has a release load that is greater than or equal to the first releasable fastening bond release load.
5. (original) The absorbent article of claim 2, wherein the releasable storage fastening bond is selected from the group comprising adhesives, cohesives, hook materials, loop materials, and combinations thereof.

6. (original) The absorbent article of claim 3, wherein the releasable combined tab fastening bond is selected from the group comprising adhesives, cohesives, hook materials, loop materials, and combinations thereof.
7. (original) The absorbent article of claim 3, wherein the first releasable fastening bond is selected from the group comprising adhesives, cohesives, hook materials, loop materials, and combinations thereof.
8. (original) The absorbent article of claim 3, wherein the second releasable fastening bond is selected from the group comprising adhesives, cohesives, hook materials, loop materials, and combinations thereof.
9. (original) The absorbent article of claim 3, wherein the first tab has a first tab length and the second tab has a second tab length, and the second tab length is greater than the first tab length.
10. (original) The absorbent article of claim 9, wherein the second tab length is equal to the first tab length.
11. (original) The article of claim 4, wherein the first tab fastening element is a hook material, the second tab fastening element is a second hook material, and the second fastening member includes at least two attachment landing zones of different loop material.

- 92
12. (currently amended) An absorbent article having a first waist region, a second waist region and a crotch region interconnecting the first waist region and second waist region, an article inner surface and an article outer surface, the absorbent article comprising:
a topsheet;
a backsheet;
a fastening device for joining at least a portion of the first waist region with at least a portion of the second waist region, the fastening device including at least one first fastening member, and at least one second fastening member;
- 91

the first fastening member is joined to the first waist region, the first fastening member includes,

a2
cont.

at least one first tab, the first tab including a first tab inner surface, a first tab outer surface, and a first tab fastening element on to the first tab inner surface,

at least one second tab, the second tab including a second tab inner surface, a second tab outer surface, and a second tab fastening element on the second tab inner surface,

a releasable tab to tab bond between the first tab outer surface and the second tab inner surface, the releasable tab to tab bond having a release load,

at least one second fastening member joined to the second waist region on the article outer surface;

each first tab fastening element and second tab fastening element are configured to provide an operably secure, fastening engagement with the second fastening member. The absorbent article of claim 1, wherein the first fastening member includes a gripping means.

-
- | | |
|-----|---|
| 13. | (original) The article of claim 4, wherein the first tab fastening element and attachment landing zone are prefastened. |
| 14. | (cancel) |
-

13 1st. (currently amended) An absorbent article having a first waist region, a second waist region and a crotch region interconnecting the first waist region and second waist region, an article inner surface and an article outer surface, the absorbent article comprising:

a3

a topsheet;

a backsheet;

a fastening device for joining at least a portion of the first waist region with at least a portion of the second waist region, the fastening device including at least one first fastening member, and at least one second fastening member;

the first fastening member is joined to the first waist region, the first fastening member includes,

a

at least one first tab, the first tab including a first tab inner surface, a first tab outer surface, and a first tab fastening element on the first tab inner surface,

at least one second tab, the second tab including a second tab inner surface, a second tab outer surface, and a second tab fastening element on the second tab inner surface,

the second fastening member is joined to the second waist region on the article outer surface and includes at least one attachment landing zone; wherein

when the at least one first tab fastening element and the attachment landing zone are fastened, a first waist hoop is formed,

wherein the article is positioned at a target article location and the at least one second tab fastening element is fastened to the attachment landing zone, a second waist hoop is formed, a ratio of the second waist hoop to the first waist hoop is from about .55 to about .95. The article of Claim 14 wherein the article is a diaper, or pull-up.

16. (cancel)

14 17. (currently amended) An absorbent article having a first waist region, a second waist region and a crotch region interconnecting the first waist region and second waist region, an article inner surface and an article outer surface, the absorbent article comprising:

a topsheet;

a backsheet;

the first waist region and the second waist region are prefastened forming at least one leg opening;

a fastening device for joining at least a portion of the first waist region with at least a portion of the second waist region, the fastening device including at least one first fastening member, and at least one second fastening member;

the first fastening member is joined to the first waist region, the first fastening member includes,

at least one first tab, the first tab including a first tab inner surface, a first tab outer surface, and a first tab fastening element on the first tab inner surface,

at least one stored landing zone on the article,

a releasable storage fastening bond between the stored landing zone and the first fastening member, the releasable storage fastening bond having a release load,

the second fastening member is joined to the second waist region on the article outer surface;

each first tab fastening element is configured to provide an operably secure, fastening engagement with the second fastening member, The article of Claim 16, wherein the first tab and a portion of the second fastening member are permanently prefastened.

(currently amended) An absorbent article having a first waist region, a second waist region and a crotch region interconnecting the first waist region and second waist region, an article inner surface and an article outer surface, the absorbent article comprising:

a topsheet;

a backsheet;

the first waist region and the second waist region are prefastened forming at least one leg opening;

a fastening device for joining at least a portion of the first waist region with at least a portion of the second waist region, the fastening device including at least one first fastening member, and at least one second fastening member;

the first fastening member is joined to the first waist region, the first fastening member includes,

at least one first tab, the first tab including a first tab inner surface, a first tab outer surface, and a first tab fastening element on the first tab inner surface,

at least one stored landing zone on the article,

a releasable storage fastening bond between the stored landing zone and the first fastening member, the releasable storage fastening bond having a release load,

the second fastening member is joined to the second waist region on the article outer surface;

each first tab fastening element is configured to provide an operably secure, fastening engagement with the second fastening member, The article of Claim 16, wherein the first fastening member includes at least one second tab, the second tab including a second tab inner surface, a second tab outer surface, and a second tab fastening member on the second tab inner surface.

94
cont'd
15 p.

19. The article of Claim 18, wherein the second fastening member includes at least two attachment landing zones of different material.

17.20.

(currently amended) An absorbent article having a first waist region, a second waist region and a crotch region interconnecting the first waist region and second waist region, an article inner surface and an article outer surface, the absorbent article comprising:

a topsheet;

a backsheet;

the first waist region and the second waist region are prefastened forming at least one leg opening;

a fastening device for joining at least a portion of the first waist region with at least a portion of the second waist region, the fastening device including at least one first fastening member, and at least one second fastening member;

the first fastening member is joined to the first waist region, the first fastening member includes,

at least one first tab, the first tab including a first tab inner surface, a first tab outer surface, and a first tab fastening element on the first tab inner surface,

at least one stored landing zone on the article,

a releasable storage fastening bond between the stored landing zone and the first fastening member, the releasable storage fastening bond having a release load,

the second fastening member is joined to the second waist region on the article outer surface;

each first tab fastening element is configured to provide an operably secure, fastening engagement with the second fastening member. The article of Claim 16 wherein the first and second waist regions are more than about 10% elastomeric or extensible under a load of about 80 grams force/centimeter or greater.

21. (previously withdrawn)